

PART XI	INCOME	
<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
A.	INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS	1
B.	COUNTABLE INCOME	1
C.	EARNED INCOME	2-3
D.	SPECIAL INCOME OF MILITARY PERSONNEL	3-4
E.	UNEARNED INCOME	4-7
F.	EXCLUDED INCOME	8-18
G.	INCOME OF EXCLUDED HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS	18-19

10/21

VOLUME V, PART XI, PAGE 1

A. INCOME ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS (7 CFR 273.9(a))

To be eligible for SNAP benefits, the countable gross monthly income of broad-based categorically eligible households may not exceed 200 percent of the gross income limit shown below. The countable gross monthly income of non-categorically eligible households may not exceed 130 percent of the gross monthly income limits shown below. Households with at least one member who is 60 years of age or over or with at least one member who is disabled, as described in Definitions must only meet the 100 percent net monthly income limits. This exception will also apply to a household with a member whose 60th birthday is in the month of application.

All households, except those that are categorically eligible, must be determined eligible based only on net income (gross income less allowable deductions listed in Part X.A). The maximum net income limits are shown below.

Federal Poverty Level (FPL) Gross and Net Income Eligibility Limits			
Household Size	200% FPL Gross Income Limit	130% FPL Gross Income Limit	100% FPL Net Income Limit
1	\$2,147	\$1,396	\$1,074
2	\$2,904	\$1,888	\$1,452
3	\$3,660	\$2,379	\$1,830
4	\$4,417	\$2,871	\$2,209
5	\$5,174	\$3,363	\$2,587
6	\$5,930	\$3,855	\$2,965
7	\$6,687	\$4,347	\$3,344
8	\$7,444	\$4,839	\$3,722
Each additional member	+\$757	+\$492	+\$379

Net income determines the amount of SNAP benefits all eligible households will receive. While categorically eligible households, excluding broad-based categorical eligibility, as defined in Part II.G.3, do not have to meet either the gross or net income eligibility standards, the net income limit will determine entitlement to an allotment even for these households.

B. COUNTABLE INCOME

Countable income is all household income, earned and unearned, from whatever source, excluding only that income specified in Part XI.F.

Income received by one person for another person or for multiple beneficiaries is considered the income of the person receiving it, unless the provisions of Part XI.G (earned income of several members combined into one payment) apply. Evaluate any income exclusions, such as third party fund exclusion, according to Part XI.F.

When verification of income is required, the local department of social services must verify gross amounts and the rate and frequency (i.e., weekly, semi-monthly, etc.) of the income received. For income received more often than monthly, verify the payment cycle, i.e., the day the income is received.

07/21

VOLUME V, PART XI, PAGE 2

C. EARNED INCOME (7 CFR 273.9(b)(1))

Earned income includes:

1. Wages and Salaries

All wages and salaries for services performed as an employee. This includes wages held by an employer at the employee's request and advances on wages, as discussed in Part XII.G. Gross wages are considered regardless of the amount and nature of deductions, unless any portion of the gross pay is excludable under Part XI.F or, if the gross amount reflects credit for employee benefits. In situations where benefits are reflected as credits and where the employee cannot elect to receive a cash payment, the amounts shown on the pay stub will not count as income. If an employee elects to have money withheld from the earnings to pay for employee benefits, that money must be counted as income.

Consider vacation pay as earned income if the employer still considers an individual as an employee. Consider sick pay as earned income if the payment to the employee is made directly from the employer or through the employer from insurance obtained by the employer. Consider sick pay as unearned income if the payment is made directly from an insurance company to the employee.

If an individual has terminated employment, consider severance pay and accumulated vacation and sick pay as earned income if the individual receives more than one installment. Severance and accumulated pay will be a lump sum resource if the individual receives only one payment. Laid-off employees are terminated employees for the purposes of this policy. If a laid-off employee opts not to withdraw vacation and/or sick pay, the value of such funds counts as an available resource.

Consider bonus pay as earned income.

2. Self-Employment Income

The gross income from a self-employment enterprise, including the total gain from the sale of any capital goods or equipment related to the business, excluding the cost of doing business. (See Part XII.A.) For self-employed households, the eligibility worker must exclude the cost of doing business to determine the countable income.

Ownership of rental property is a self-employment enterprise; however, income derived from the rental property counts as earned income only if a household member actively manages the property for a minimum of 20 hours a week.

Payments from roomers and boarders count as earned self-employment income.

3. Training Allowances

Training allowances from vocational and rehabilitative programs recognized by federal, state or local governments when they do not constitute a reimbursement. (See Part XI.F.) These include, but are not limited to, vocational rehabilitation incentive payments.

Income received by individuals who are participating in on-the-job training programs funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act **is** considered earned income. This provision includes on-the-job training programs funded under the National and Community Services Act, Americorps, the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, and the Youthbuild Program. This provision, however, does not apply to household members under 19 years of age who are under the parental control of another household member, regardless of school attendance and/or enrollment as discussed in Part XI.F.8. See also Part XI.F.11.d.

4. Payments under Title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973

Payments under Title I of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (VISTA, etc.) count as earned income unless they are excluded from consideration. See Part XI.F.11.c.

5. Payments to Day Care Providers

Payments to day care providers for meals served to children, other than their own, funded by the School Lunch Act will count as earned income to the provider. These payments do not count as reimbursement. See Part XII.A.7 for allowable business costs.

6. Jury Duty Pay (PIRS 88-10)

Jury duty pay is countable earned income unless it meets the infrequent/irregular income or reimbursement policy of Part XI.F.4 or F.6.

Use the following documents or records to verify the earned income of the household. The documents are often available from the applicant.

Pay stubs
Employee's W-2 Form
State or federal income tax return
Sales and expenditure records

Pay envelopes
Wage tax receipts
Self-employment bookkeeping records

Verification from other sources might include:

Employer's wage records
Statement from the employer

VEC Office
State Income Tax Bureau

D. SPECIAL INCOME OF MILITARY PERSONNEL (FNS Policy Memos 81-1, 81-5, and 81-13 and Admin Notice A-24-91)

Many members of the military receive special allowances that count in determining the eligibility and benefit amount of households containing such persons. Military personnel may receive the following allowances:

1. Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)

The BAH is considered as earned income for SNAP purposes. The household is also entitled to a shelter deduction. In some instances, the BAH may be listed as income and then all or a portion of the amount deducted on the leave and earnings statement because he or she lives on the base. Use the amount listed to compute the SNAP shelter deduction.

2. Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)

The BAS is paid in cash, on a daily basis, or by check, three months in advance, and is not considered a part of the wages. The BAS will appear on the leave and earnings statement monthly. The BAS is considered as earned income for SNAP purposes.

3. Clothing Maintenance Allowance (CMA)

The CMA is excluded as income for SNAP purposes. The payment is counted as a reimbursement for the job-related expense of uniforms under Part XI.F.6.

Any amount received by or made available to household members for deployment or service in a combat zone will not count as income for SNAP purposes unless the payment was received before the deployment. This exclusion includes items such as, but not limited to, incentive pay for hazardous duty, special pay for imminent duty or hostile fire duty or certain reenlistment bonuses, or special pay for certain occupational or educational skills.

E. UNEARNED INCOME (7 CFR 273.9(b)(2))

Unearned income includes:

1. Assistance Payments

Assistance payments from federal, federally aided, or state-local public assistance programs, based on need. Examples are:

- a. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
Note that payments received through the Diversionary Assistance Program as a lump sum are excluded as income. See Part XI.F.9.
- b. General Relief (GR)
- c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Income from these assistance programs will count as unearned income even if provided in the form of a vendor payment, unless the provisions of Part XI.F.3 apply that prohibit considering certain vendor payments as countable income. Assistance payments from programs that require the actual performance of work without compensation, other than the assistance payments themselves, count as unearned income.

2. Annuities and Pensions

Annuities and pensions, such as:

- a. Retirement benefits
- b. Veteran's benefits
- c. Disability benefits
- d. Old age, survivors, and Social Security benefits (OASDI)

3. Workmen's or Unemployment Compensation

4. Strike Benefits

5. Foster Care Payments

Foster care payments made to a household on behalf of a legally assigned individual in foster care. Note: Foster care payments will be considered the income of the foster family if the household elects to count the foster individual as a household member for SNAP purposes. Therefore, if the foster person is excluded from the household under the provisions of Part VI.A.3, the payment is not considered income to the rest of the household.

6. Certain Rental Property Income

Income derived from rental property in which a household member is not actively engaged in the management of the property at least an average of 20 hours a week. Except for the fact that the earned income deduction (Part XIII.A.2) does not apply, treat this income the same as a self-employment enterprise. (See Part XII.A.)

7. Support and Alimony Payments

Support and alimony payments made directly to the household from a nonhousehold member. This includes payments redirected to the household from the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE). Payments received by or for TANF recipients that the household should send to the DCSE as a condition of TANF eligibility will not count even if the household fails to redirect the payments.

8. Dividends, Royalties and Interest

Payments received in the form of dividends or royalties are countable. Interest payments will count as income if the amount averages more than \$10.00 per month.

9. Money Withdrawn from Trust Funds or Improper IDA Withdrawals

Money withdrawn or dividends that are or that the household could receive from trust funds do not count as a resource under Part IX.E.12. Trust withdrawals will count as income in the month received unless they are otherwise exempt. Dividends that the household has the option of either receiving as income or reinvesting in the trust will count as income in the month they become available to the household unless otherwise exempt.

Withdrawals from an individual development account (IDA) will not count as income if the withdrawal is for pursuing post-secondary education, purchasing a home, starting a business or as an approved household emergency. All other withdrawals from the IDA will count as unearned income in the month of the withdrawal.

10. Income Available to Sponsored Aliens (7 CFR 273.9(b)(4); 7 CFR 273.11(h)(2)(iv))

For households that contain sponsored aliens (as defined in Part XII.C.), unearned income will also include that amount of the monthly income of an alien's sponsor and the sponsor's spouse (if living with the sponsor) deemed to be that of the alien according to the procedures in Part XII.C.3 and 5. Income deeming applies unless the sponsored alien is otherwise exempt from this provision as allowed in Part XII.C.1.

Actual money paid to the alien by the sponsor or the sponsor's spouse does not count as income to the alien unless the amount paid exceeds the amount attributed to the sponsor. See Part XII.C.4. The amount paid that exceeds the amount attributed will count as income to the alien in addition to the amount attributed to the alien.

11. Funds Deposited into Joint Accounts

Funds deposited into a joint bank account by a nonhousehold member, when a household member's name is also on the account count as income to the household, to the extent the deposited funds are intended for household use.

The EW must be sure to use this policy only when deposited funds are intended for household use. For example, a husband in the military overseas has his allotment deposited directly into a joint account with his wife who receives SNAP benefits and the money is intended for his wife's use.

In situations where a SNAP household member's name is on a joint account with a nonhousehold member and the funds deposited by the nonhousehold member are clearly not intended for the household member's use, no income to the household will be counted. The account balance will be evaluated as a resource to the household as allowed by Part IX. C.1.

The EW must verify the household member's statement concerning the amount of money available as income. If all the money deposited into the joint account is intended for the household's use, then verification of the amount deposited would suffice. When this is not the case however, it will be necessary to verify the amount through the nonhousehold member.

When a nonhousehold member's savings are used by the household to repay a loan for the nonhousehold member it would not be considered as income to the household. This policy will also apply to repayment of car loans in which the nonhousehold member is the sole owner.

If the statements of the household and nonhousehold member differ regarding the amount of money intended for the household's use, the EW must resolve the discrepancy and document the case record.

12. Other Money Payments

All other direct money payments from any source that can be construed to be a gain or benefit to the SNAP household, other than monetary gifts for an identifiable one time occasion or normal annual occasion.

In verifying unearned income of the household, the following documents or records are generally available through the applicant:

RSDI award letter (note that changes in benefits will not always be reflected)	Benefit payment check
Unemployment Compensation award letter	Pension award notice
Veterans Administration award notice	Correspondence on benefits
Income tax records	Railroad Retirement award letter
Support and alimony payments evidenced by court order, divorce or separation papers, contribution check	

Verification from other sources include:

Social Security (Form SSA-1610)	Social Security District Office files
VEC - Unemployment Compensation Section	Employer's record
Union records	Workers Compensation records
Veterans Administration	Insurance company records
Tax records	Railroad Retirement Board records
PA case file	

F. EXCLUDED INCOME (7 CFR 273.9(b)(5); 273.9(c))

The following income will not count in determining eligibility or benefit level:

1. Repayment of a Prior Overpayment

Repayment of a prior overpayment provided that the income was not excludable elsewhere in this chapter at the time of the overpayment. This includes:

- a. Money withheld from an assistance payment, from earned income, or from any other income source to repay a prior overpayment received from that income source.
- b. Money received from any income sources that the household voluntarily or involuntarily returns to repay a prior overpayment received from that income source.

Example

A TANF recipient is entitled to a grant of \$225.00 but the amount of the actual payment is \$175.00. The agency withheld \$50.00 to repay a prior overpayment. The overpayment was not the result of the household's failure to comply with the TANF program requirements. The net amount received by the TANF recipient is the amount that will count as income for SNAP purposes.

However, money withheld from an assistance program that results from the household's failure to comply with the requirements of the other program will count as income as specified in Part XII.D.

2. Payments Received by the Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE)

Payments received and kept by the DCSE on behalf of TANF recipients will not count as income. Payments redirected to households by the DCSE or supplemented through the TANF Program will count as income. Payments received by TANF recipients that the recipient must direct to DCSE as a condition of TANF eligibility will not count as income even if the household keeps the payments.

3. In-Kind Benefits and Vendor Payments

In-kind benefits and vendor payments are any gains or benefits that are not in the form of money payable directly to the household.

a. In-Kind Benefits

In-kind benefits are benefits for which no monetary payment occurs on behalf of the household. These benefits include meals, clothing, housing or produce from a garden.

b. Vendor Payments

A vendor payment is a money payment made on behalf of a household by a person or organization outside of the household to a service provider or creditor of the household. Vendor payments made to a third party on behalf of the household are included or excluded as income as described below:

1. PA vendor payments, excluding GR vendor payments

Vendor payments from PA programs, other than GR, are excluded as income if they are made for:

- a. Medical assistance;
- b. Child care assistance;
- c. Energy assistance;
- d. Emergency assistance;
- e. Special and emergency assistance, not specifically excluded by other provisions of this section, made over and above the normal grant; or
- f. Emergency TANF vendor payments on behalf of a migrant or seasonal farm worker household while the household is in the job stream.

2. GR Vendor Payments

Except for some vendor payments for housing, GR vendor payments do not count as income. A housing vendor payment will count as income unless the payment is for:

- a. Utility costs;
- b. Energy assistance;
- c. Housing assistance from a state or local housing authority;
- d. Special and emergency assistance, not specifically excluded by other provisions of this section, made over and above the normal grant; or
- e. Emergency GR vendor payments on behalf of a migrant or seasonal farm worker household while the household is in the job stream.

3. HUD Vendor Payments

Rent or mortgage payments made by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to landlords or mortgagees are excluded. This includes TANF payments for housing made through HUD.

4. Educational Assistance Vendor Payments

Educational assistance paid on behalf of households for living expenses are excluded.

5. Vendor Payments that are Reimbursements

Vendor payments that are also in the form of reimbursements are excluded.

6. Demonstration Project Payments

In-kind or vendor payments that would normally not count as income but which are converted, in whole or in part, to a direct cash payment under a federally authorized demonstration project or a waiver of federal law provisions are excluded.

7. Other Third-Party Payments

Money which is legally obligated and otherwise payable to the household must be counted as income and not excluded as vendor payments when they are diverted to a third party by the provider of the payment for a household expense. Court-ordered support or alimony payments and wages are examples of payments that will count as income regardless of diverted payments to third parties.

4. Infrequent or Irregular Income

Any income in the certification period that is received too infrequently or irregularly to be reasonably anticipated, but which is not more than \$30 in a calendar quarter. This may include interest payments on bank accounts or other financial instruments as long as the average monthly payment is less than \$10.00 per month.

5. Loans

All loans. The loan may be from a private individual as well as from a commercial institution. Verify that money received by the household is a loan if circumstances are questionable as per Part III.A.2. When verifying that income is exempt as a loan, a legally binding agreement is not required. A simple statement of both parties that indicates that the payment is a loan and that the household must repay the loan will be sufficient verification. If the household receives payments on a recurrent or regular basis from the same source however, but claims the payments are loans, the local agency may also require that the lender provide a statement that addresses that repayments are being made or that payments will be made according to an established repayment schedule.

6. Reimbursements

Reimbursement on past or future expenses, to the extent that:

- a. They do not exceed actual expenses.
- b. They do not represent a gain or benefit to the household.

Reimbursements for normal household living expenses, such as rent or mortgage, personal clothing, or food eaten at home are a gain or benefit, and, therefore, are not excluded. To exclude this money, these payments must be for an identified expense, other than normal living expenses, and the recipient must use the money for the purpose intended.

When a reimbursement covers multiple expenses, including a flat allowance, it is not necessary to identify each expense separately as long as none of the reimbursement covers normal living expenses.

The amount by which a reimbursement exceeds the actual incurred expense will count as income. It is not necessary to consider whether reimbursements exceed actual expenses unless the provider or the household indicates the amount is excessive. This applies to anticipated expenses as well as past expenses for which reimbursement covers.

Jury duty pay may count as a reimbursement if it meets the criteria of this section.

Examples of reimbursements that do not represent a gain or benefit to the household are:

- a. Reimbursement or flat allowances for job or training related expenses, such as:
 - 1) Travel
 - 2) Per diem
 - 3) Uniforms
 - 4) Transportation to and from the job or training site, including reimbursements for the travel expenses incurred by migrant workers.
- b. Reimbursements for out-of-pocket expenses of volunteers incurred in the course of their work.
- c. Medical reimbursements.
- d. Dependent care reimbursements.
- e. Reimbursements received by households to pay for services provided by Title XX of the Social Security Act.

7. Third Party Funds

Monies received and used for the care and maintenance of a third-party beneficiary who is not a household member. If the intended beneficiaries of a single payment are both household and nonhousehold members, any identifiable portion of the payment intended and used for the care and maintenance of the nonhousehold member will not count. If the nonhousehold member's portion cannot be readily identified, the payment will be evenly prorated among intended beneficiaries and the exclusion applied to the nonhousehold member's pro rata share or the amount actually used for the nonhousehold member's care and maintenance, whichever is less. The term nonhousehold member refers both to persons residing with the SNAP household but considered nonhousehold members according to the provisions of Part VI.C and persons who do not reside with the SNAP household.

Examples

- a. Ms. X is payee for Social Security benefits for two children who do not live with her. The check totals \$200. Ms. X gives the children's guardian \$100. In addition, she deposits \$25 in a savings account for the children and spends the remaining \$75 on items for the children.

Ms. X has no income assigned from this source. The EW must count \$200 to the children's household. If Ms. X could not account for any portion of the \$200, that portion would count as income to her.

- b. Ms. Y receives child support for her two children. One child does not live with her. The father sends \$200 (\$100 prorated for each child). Ms. Y sends \$150 to the child who is not in her home.

The income for Ms. Y's household is \$100. The second child's income is \$150 (\$100 child support and a contribution of \$50 from the mother).

- c. Ms. Z and her four children receive a TANF check of \$300. The oldest child is in Job Corps in another city, so the SNAP unit excludes this child. Ms. Z sends the child \$50 a month from the TANF check to cover his living expenses.

The child's prorated share of the TANF check is \$300 divided by 5 = \$60. The mother actually sends \$50. The lesser amount, \$50, is excluded income in the SNAP calculation.

- d. Household A requests the inclusion of children who reside in Household B part of the month. A member of Household A pays child support to Household B for one or more of these children. Household B uses that income to pay household and the children's personal expenses. The child support will not count as income to Household A but would count toward Household B if that household applies for SNAP benefits.

8. Earnings of Children

The earned income of children who are under age 18 and who attend elementary or high school, or who attend GED classes that are operated, supervised, or recognized by the local school board are excluded. This exclusion also applies to participants of elementary or high school level home-school programs that are approved by the local school superintendent as meeting the state's home-school law. The children must also be:

- a. Certified with a natural, adoptive or step-parent, or
- b. Under the control of a household member other than a parent, as defined in Part VI.A.2.b.

This exclusion will continue to apply during temporary interruptions in school attendance due to semester or vacation breaks, provided the child's enrollment will resume following the break. If the child's earnings or amount of work performed cannot be differentiated from that of other household members, the total earnings must be divided equally among the working members and the child's pro rata share excluded.

This exclusion will end the month following the month in which the child turns 18 and the money becomes countable.

9. Lump Sum Payments

Monies received in the form of a nonrecurring lump sum payment, including but not limited to:

- a. Income tax refunds, rebates or credits;
- b. Retroactive lump sum Social Security, public assistance, Railroad Retirement benefits or other payments;
- c. Lump sum insurance settlements;
- d. Refunds of security deposits on rental property or utilities.
- e. Accumulated vacation, sick, or severance pay of terminated employees received in a lump sum;
- f. Gambling winnings;
- g. Monetary gifts for identifiable one time occasions or normal annual occasions; and
- h. Retroactive SSI payments even when received in multiple installments.

These payments will count as resources in the month received unless specifically excluded from consideration as a resource by other federal laws. The fact that the household or agency can anticipate a lump sum payment does not affect the exclusion as income.

Irregular unemployment compensation benefits will not count as lump sum payments although they may include amounts intended to cover prior periods.

Irregular support payments generally will not count as lump sum payments. The TANF disregarded support payment received for a prior period and support payments made through one-time payments such as the withholding of federal or state tax refunds will count as a lump sum resource however. The disregarded incentive support payment will be for a prior period if the entitlement date is two or more months prior to the check date. This exclusion does not include the TANF monthly supplement payment received for the prior month.

10. Self-Employment Expenses

The cost of producing self-employment income. The procedures for computing the cost of producing self-employment income are described in Part XII.A.5 and 9.

11. Exclusion by Law

Income specifically excluded by federal law from consideration as income in determining SNAP eligibility or benefits. This includes:

- a. Reimbursements from the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646, Section 216).
- b. All compensation received under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and amendments (P.L. 92-203 and 100-241).
- c. Payments to volunteers under programs covered by the Domestic Volunteer Services Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-113). This includes:
 - Title I - Payments to VISTA volunteers if the volunteers were receiving SNAP benefits or public assistance when they joined the Title I program. This also includes payments to VISTA volunteers if the payment is less than the federal minimum wage.
 - Title II - This includes the Retired Senior Volunteer Program, Foster Grandparents, and the Senior Companion Program.
- d. Payments from programs funded in whole or in part under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), except for on-the-job training programs funded through the WIOA. Payments from on-the-job training programs under this section are considered countable earned income, except for persons under 19 who are under parental control of a household member. For such individuals, the on-the-job WIOA payments are excluded.

This exclusion includes projects conducted under the National and Community Services Act, Americorps, and the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, as if the projects were conducted under the WIOA. Payments made under

the Youthbuild Program through the Housing and Community Development Act must also be treated like WOIA payments (P.L. 97-300, 99-198, 101-610, 102-367, 102-550).

- e. Payments from the Community Service Employment Program under Title V of the Older Americans Act (P.L. 100-175). Some organizations that receive Title V funds are:
- Experience Works (formerly Green Thumb)
 - National Council on Aging
 - National Council on Black Aging
 - American Association of Retired Persons
 - U.S. Forest Service
 - National Association for Spanish Speaking Elderly
 - National Urban League
 - National Council of Senior Citizens
- f. Payments from private nonprofit charitable organizations, not in excess of \$300 per fiscal quarter, which are not already excluded as a lump sum resource. Any amount over the \$300 limit is counted as unearned income (P.L. 100-232).
- g. Payments under the Wartime Relocation of Civilians Act to certain U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry and resident Japanese aliens and certain Aleuts (P.L. 100-383).
- h. Payments from the Agent Orange Settlement Fund or any other fund established for settlement of Agent Orange product liability litigation (P.L. 101-201 and P.L. 101-239.)
- Payments to veterans with a service-connected disability resulting from Agent Orange exposure are countable (P.L. 102-4).
- i. Payments under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974, as amended, and the Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance amendments of 1988. The President must declare the event a federal disaster or emergency. The exclusion applies to federal payments and comparable disaster assistance provided by States, local governments and disaster assistance organizations (P.L. 100-707).

Payments through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to property owners under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 to reduce risks of flood damage are excluded.

Most payments from FEMA are excluded, but payments made when there is no declared disaster or emergency, such as rent assistance for the homeless household, are not excluded.

- j. The value of any child care provided, arranged, or reimbursed under the Social Security Act through the block grant child care program (Section 6585, P.L. 102-586, as amended).
- k. Earned income tax credits (P.L. 101-508).
- l. Salary reductions for military personnel which are used to fund the GI bill (P.L. 99-576).
- m. The following payments to Indian tribes:
 - Income from certain submarginal land of the U.S. which is held in trust for certain Indian tribes (P.L. 94-114, Section 6).
 - Income from the disposition of funds to the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians (P.L. 94-540).
 - Payments by the Indian Claims Commission to the Confederated Tribes and Bands of Yakima Indian Nation and the Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation (P.L. 95-433, Section 2).
 - Payments from the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980 to the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, and the Houlton Band of Maliseet (P.L. 96-420, Section 9c).
 - Payments of relocation assistance to members of the Navajo and Hopi Tribes (P.L. 93-531, Section 22).
 - Per capita payments of up to \$2,000 per calendar year under the Indian Judgment Fund Act as amended (P.L. 93-134 and 97-458).
 - Payments to the Chippewa Tribes: Turtle Mountain, Red Lake, Mississippi, Lake Superior, Saginaw, or White Earth (P.L. 97-403, 98-123, 99-146, 99-264, 99-346, and 99-377).
 - Payments to the Blackfeet, Grosventre, and Papago Tribes (P.L. 97-408).
 - Payments to the Assiniboine Tribes (P.L. 98-124, Section 5 and 97-408).
 - Payments to the Seneca Nation (P.L. 101-503).
 - Payments to the Puyallup Tribe (P.L. 101-41).
 - Payments to the Sac and Fox Tribes (P.L. 94-189).

- Payments, except for per capita payments over \$2000, to the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Miccosukee Tribe of Florida, and the independent Seminole Tribe of Florida (P.L. 101-277).
- Payments made under the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation Grand Coulee Dam Settlement Act (P.L. 103-436).
- n. Payments under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (P.L. 101-426).
- o. Contributions of an SSI recipient into a Plan for Achieving Self Support (PASS) account (PL 102-237).
- p. Payments for meals for children or adults on whose behalf the payment is made through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, Section 12(a) of the School Lunch Act.
- q. Payments to individuals because of their status as victims of Nazi persecution (P.L. 103-286).
- r. Payments through the Department of Veteran Affairs to children of Vietnam veterans who are born with congenital spina bifida and payments to children of female Vietnam veterans who are born with certain birth defects (P.L. 104-204 and P.L. 106-419).
- s. Money contributed to Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts or money distributed from such accounts for disability-related expenses are excluded as income. ABLE accounts are set up for persons determined to be disabled before age 26.

12. Government Subsidies for Housing and Energy/Utility Payments

Payments or allowances made for housing, energy assistance or utility payments under any federal, state or local government program will not count. This includes payments received from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (Virginia Energy Assistance Program), HUD and FmHA utility payments.

13. Shared Shelter Arrangements

In some situations, SNAP households may share shelter expenses with others. Money may exchange hands between the units to facilitate bill paying. This exchange of money for the purposes of bill paying in a shared shelter arrangement is not considered income to the person receiving it. Each household is entitled to its share of the shelter expenses.

Allow the household to describe/define the arrangements. Allow each household to claim its portion of the shelter costs if the arrangement is for the purpose of splitting living costs as opposed to a rental arrangement where one household elects to charge another household for shelter costs.

Note: This policy does not replace the roomer/boarder and rental property situations.

01/21

VOLUME V, PART XI, PAGE 18

14. Funds Deposited in an Individual Development Account (IDA) or HUD Escrow Account

Money deposited in an IDA on behalf of a household member will not count as income nor money deposited in an escrow account established by HUD.

15. VIEW Supportive Services Payments

Payments made directly or indirectly to household members for supportive services through VIEW will not count as income. This exclusion does not include VIEW Transitional Payments.

16. Educational Benefits

Money received for educational purposes. These payments include, among others, scholarships, grants, educational loans, veteran's educational benefits, and work-study.

17. Legally Obligated Child Support Payments

Child support payments paid by a household member to an individual or agency outside the household are allowable as an income exclusion. Payments to a third party on behalf of a child, including payments to obtain health insurance for the child, in accordance with the support order, will also be included in the income exclusion. An income exclusion for amounts paid toward arrearages are allowable. Administrative fees charged by an employer to collect support through wages are allowable.

The legal obligation to pay child support, the amount of support obligated, and the amount of support actually paid must be verified before the income exclusion is allowed. The allowable income exclusion may not exceed the monthly obligated amount unless the amount paid includes an amount in arrears.

The child support exclusion may not include alimony or spousal support payments made to or for a nonhousehold member.

18. **Economic Stimulus Payments to households or individuals made in response to Covid-19 pandemic excluded as income in the month received. Federal pandemic unemployment payments are also excluded as income in the month received.**

G. INCOME OF EXCLUDED HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (7 CFR 273.9(b)(3); 273.11(d))

Individual household members may be disqualified from receiving SNAP benefits or may be ineligible to participate. See Part VI.C for a discussion of nonhousehold members. See Part XII.E for a discussion of how to handle the income of a disqualified household member to the remaining members.

For excluded household members who are ineligible rather than disqualified, such as ineligible students, the income of the ineligible member is not considered available to the household. Any cash payments from the ineligible member to the household must be considered income under the normal income standards described in this manual. If the household shares deductible expenses with the ineligible member, only the amount actually paid or contributed by the eligible members is

allowed as an expense. If these payments or contributions cannot be differentiated, the expenses must be prorated evenly among the persons actually paying or contributing to the expense and only the eligible members' pro rata share deducted.

When the earned income of one or more household members and the earned income of an ineligible member are combined into one wage, the income of the household members must be determined as follows:

- If the household's share can be identified, count that portion due to the household as earned income.
- If the household's share is not identifiable, prorate the earned income among those it was intended to cover and count the prorated portion to the household.